



**MNO Arlanza Neighborhood
October 24, 2007
Arlanza Elementary School**

Community Development

Q – We need Code Enforcement to look at some places where cars have not working for years and get the residents and businesses to clean them up. Can we have more work at cleaning more of the Arlanza streets/ backyards and empty fields?

A – (Part 1) The City has laws which do not allow the parking or storage of vehicles on public streets for more than 72 hours. In addition, it is prohibited to store an inoperative vehicle in public view even if it is parked on private property or a driveway. Code Enforcement Officers and Code Enforcement Community Volunteers actively address these violations on a daily basis and residents are encouraged to call Code Enforcement at 951-826-5633 if they know of a location that may be in violation of this or any other ordinance. Code Enforcement will respond to complaints within **24-48** hours.

(Part 2) The Arlanza area has dedicated Code Enforcement Officers assigned specifically to that geographic area. Again, if there are specific concerns, we encourage residents to contact our office and let us know. We will generate a case, inspect the location and address any violations that we observe.

Q – Are we going to have stricter laws on trash dumping, especially on Lions Head?

A – The City of Riverside has very strict laws in place concerning illegal dumping. Code Enforcement will cause the removal of any material that has been dumped illegally on a property. Illegal dumping is a crime of opportunity, and it is difficult to apprehend illegal dumpers. We encourage residents to contact the Police Dept. immediately if they observe illegal dumping in progress. For removal of offending materials, call 951-826-5311 to report the location.

Parks, Recreation & Community Service

Q – What are the plans for Challen Park?

A - There are currently no plans for the development of the Challen Park site. The site itself is one that will be difficult to develop for use by the general public, offering little if any level usable areas. It is currently carried on the Department's inventories as an "open space" site, akin to the Mt. Rubidoux and Sycamore Canyon Wilderness Park sites.

Q – Could the City place vehicle barriers for Challen Park?

A – The department will look into the feasibility of providing temporary vehicular barriers. However, given that the site is surrounded on three sides by public streets, short of fencing off the entire perimeter, the site has proven in the past to be a difficult one to control. Many of those in the community who have been abusing the site with their off-road vehicles have previously simply pushed over barriers and signs or pulled them out. The Department would welcome assistance from the community in terms of providing information to identify who has been entering the site with such unauthorized vehicles so that appropriate citations can be issued.

Q – At the corner of Picker and Philbin, there is an empty field. Is there a possibility of building a soccer complex there? Where are the closest soccer fields?

A – The Department is advised that a housing project is currently planned for development at this site. The inquiry is being redirected to the Development Department, who we're told is involved with the proposed project.

Soccer fields are currently available at Villegas Park, Bobby Bonds Park and the Ab Brown Sports Complex. Four dedicated soccer fields will be installed at the future Riverside Youth Sports Complex, which will be located at Van Buren and Victoria.

Q – We need more lights, grass and a water fountain at Bryant Park. Also, we need more soccer fields for the kids and shades for the baseball fields. What can be done?

A – At this point, the Bryant Park site is essentially fully developed. Insufficient space currently exists to add new facilities, such as soccer fields, for increased usage of the site unless other major facilities are reorganized/relocated. Such a reorganization of the site would be immensely expensive, time consuming and would greatly disrupt the use of the facilities by other organizations. It is therefore not seen as feasible at this time.

Q - Can the City improve the lighting of the basketball courts at Bordwell Park? When playing basketball the lights are very dim with limited time.

A - The department has looked at the condition of the basketball court lighting system at Bordwell Park to determine whether the system is performing to its optimum design efficiency, making any adjustments needed, cleaning the reflectors and lenses, etc. The Parks Division has order new 1000w light fixtures to replace the old 400w light fixtures that will improve the lighting on the basketball court. This project should be complete near the end of December.

Police

Q – Is it possible to have more police patrols and surveillance at Challen Park to prevent crime?

A – The Police Department Western Area Commander has directed patrol officers in the area of Challen Park to patrol the area whenever possible and when not assigned a call. Additionally, the Area Commander has instructed personnel, Detectives and POP officers, to track crimes in the area through the Crime Analysis unit in order to identify trends and respond more efficiently to incidents in the area. A web-based email network has been established with area residents, which have enabled us to react in “real time” to criminal activity or suspicious activity. This has resulted recently in the identification of a car thief / prowler. A warrant has been issued for his arrest.

Q – There is a residence on the corner of Rutland and Cypress that appears to have several problems which include traffic and the possibility of drugs. A person has been throwing glass bottles and rocks in the street. Is there anyway to stop these things?

A – There is an ongoing investigation of the activities at this site.

Public Utilities:

Q – The sewage/water reservoir on Cook Avenue has been out of use for some time and used only for graffiti. What are the plans for fixing or demolishing that?

A – The reservoir will be removed during Spring 2008.

Public Works:

Q – Can a light be installed at Bolton and California because of dangerously fast cars and the inability to make left turns onto Bolton and onto California?

A – The City has evaluated this intersection and it ranks ninth on the traffic signal prioritization list. As the cost of a new signal is approximately \$300,000 it is important that the City prioritize requests such as this and others to ensure funds are spent where most needed.

In the interim, the roadway has been restricted to right turns only when exiting Bolton Avenue and as an extra safety measure; the City is also looking at making striping changes to help assist vehicles in making right turns.

We understand this is a minor inconvenience to some motorists and pedestrians in this area who desire to cross or make left turns, however safety needs to be the paramount concern.

Q – When I think of the gateway to the City, I think of Market to Magnolia to Buchanan. Why has the City done nothing between Buchanan and Banberry? I have been waiting 42 years.

A – The City has a Magnolia Avenue project planned for construction in summer 2008. Magnolia Avenue will be widened by one lane in each direction from Tyler

Street to La Sierra Avenue and the medians and parkways from Tyler Street to Buchanan Street will be landscaped and beautified.

Q- Cook Street needs to be cleaned up, especially regarding the look and appearance. Can we put sidewalks there?

A – Sidewalk projects are prioritized based on pedestrian need and proximity to key facilities such as schools, parks, hospitals, and bus stops. For example, the City recently constructed sidewalk in the block of Cook Avenue between Jones and Mobley Avenue to serve the nearby and elementary school and park.

The segment of Cook Street west of Tyler Street will be added to the Public Works Department's list of potential projects and evaluated on a priority basis. The portion of Cook Avenue easterly of Tyler Avenue (about ½ mile) is undeveloped and given the low pedestrian usage, developers of the property would be conditioned to construct the missing improvements.